

CITY OF WELLS
URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1942
TO THE URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY OF THE
CITY OF WELLS

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of the City during 1942.

The Public Health Officers of the Council are a part-time Medical Officer of Health and a Sanitary Inspector.

The Medical Officer of Health has held the post since April 1st, 1938, and he holds the following degrees: M.B., Ch.B.,

The Sanitary Inspector holds the Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board and is a member of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

The area of the City is 1301.150 acres.

The Registrar General's estimated of the Mid-year Resident population of Wells in 1942, is 6527.

The number of inhabited houses in the City at the end of 1942 was 1,617.

The Rateable Value at the end of 1942 was £40,972.

The sum represented by a penny rate at the end of 1942 was £166.

BIRTH RATE

The total live Births in the City in 1942 was:-
85 as follows:-

Legitimate 81: Males 45: Females 36:
Illegitimate 4: Males 3: Female 1:

13.4
12.4

The birth rate per thousand of the population was

There were 4 still births: 3 males and 1 female.

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 3 deaths of infants under one year all of whom were legitimate.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	5	5	0
Diphtheria	2	2	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hos.	Total deaths
Erysipelas	2	0	0

PULLONARY TUBERCULOSIS

Twelve cases were notified during the year.

There was no epidemic of notifiable diseases during the year.

Five cases of Scarlet Fever was below the average and only two cases of diptheria were notified.

There was very little influenza during 1942 and no deaths were reported.

There were 5 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year, all of whom were admitted to Shepton Mallet Isolation Hospital. The cases recovered and there were no deaths.

DEATH RATE

There were 75 deaths in the City during 1942: 30 males and 45 females.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other Puerperal cases.

There were 10 deaths from Cancer. 4 male and 6 females.

There were 23 deaths from Heart Diseases: 9 male and 13 female.

Death rate per thousand of the population was 11.8

There were no cases of Bug Infestation during the year.

SCABIES

The Scabies outbreak, which has been serious in 1941, was well under control and local arrangements for the treatment of cases was satisfactory.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the district, which is served by the Wells City Council, is satisfactory in quality and quantity.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The main arrangements for drainage, sewerage and sewage disposal were given in detail in previous reports, and have not been materially altered.

War conditions have greatly increased our difficulties at the Sewage farm.

The disposal works are situate to the West of the City on a site well removed from habitation and highways. The system is overworked and a scheme for remodelling the works is ready for action as soon as circumstances permit.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH INQUIRIES

(Particulars of any held, object result)

N I L

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING
THE YEAR

(1) By Local Authority.

With State Assistance	(a) Rehousing under Housing Act 1936.	Nil
	(b) Overcrowding	Nil
	(c) Other.	Nil
Without state assistance.		

(2) By other bodies or persons.

(a) With state assistance	Nil
(b) Without state assistance	Nil

HOUSING INSPECTIONS

(1) 1.	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health of Housing Acts.)	63
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	70
2.	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932.	Nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	Nil
	(c) Number of houses in which no action was found necessary.	
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	Nil
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	24
(11)	(a) Number of defective dwelling houses referred fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	20
	(b) Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action.	Nil

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

The house refuse collection in the City is carried out daily by means of a Scammell Refuse lorry.

(111) Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act 1936.	Nil
Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	Nil
Proceedings under Sections 11, 13 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936.	Nil
Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act.	Nil

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HOUSING - OCT 1936 - Overcrowding

The overcrowding situation in the City is not serious, but there are isolated cases consequent upon evacuation.

MILK SUPPLY

Number of Producers on the Register. 7

Number of Distributors on the Register
divided as follows:-

(a) Distributors only. 7

(b) Distributors who are also producers. 3

(A producer is only included as a distributor as he definitely makes a business of selling his milk by retail to individual customers.)

MEAT SUPERVISION

Slaughterhouses: Licenced 4: Registered 5:

Total 9:

Yours faithfully,

R. G. H. H. H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Date *April 6* 1944